

MRS. AGATHA CHRISTIE.

HER OWN STORY OF HER DISAPPEARANCE.

LOST MEMORY IN CAR CRASH.

THOUGHT SHE WAS FROM SOUTH AFRICA.

Mrs. Agatha Christie, the novelist, gave to a *Daily Mail* reporter last night for the first time her own full personal account of her extraordinary disappearance from her home at Sunningdale, Berkshire, on December 3, 1926.

It will be recalled that Mrs. Christie left her home, where she was living with her husband and her young daughter, at 9.45 p.m. in a motor-car, which was found early the following morning among some bushes on the slopes of the



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LIBEL CASE STATEMENT.

Mrs. Christie, who is living with her daughter at Chelsea, was very reluctant to raise once again the question of her disappearance, but was persuaded to do so as a result of a statement during the hearing of Mr. Mitchell Hedges's libel action. Reference was there made to her disappearance as "a hoax on the police," and Mr. Stuart Bevan, K.C., as reported in Page 12, yesterday asked the Lord Chief Justice for permission to hand in a medical certificate showing the state of Mrs. Christie's mind at the time.

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following frank account of her amazing experience. She said:

I thought everybody had forgotten about the affair, but the reference in the libel suit shows that many people still think I deliberately disappeared.

Of course I know that at the time a large number of people thought that I had gone away to seek publicity, to carry out a stupid hoax, or to have a subtle revenge on somebody.

What actually happened was this. I left home that night in a state of high nervous strain with the intention of doing something desperate. I drove in my car over the crest of the Downs in the direction of a quarry. The car struck something, and I was flung against the steering wheel and injured my chest and my head. I was dazed by the blow and lost my memory. For 24 hours I wandered in a dream and then found myself at Harrogate—a well-contented and perfectly happy woman who believed she had just come from South Africa.

Asked for details of what happened before and after her disappearance, Mrs. Christie continued:

The trouble really began with the death of my mother in the spring of 1926. That affected me very deeply, and on top of this shock there came a number of private troubles, into which I would rather not enter. Instead of sleeping well, as I had done previously, I began to suffer from insomnia, and slept on the average only two hours a night.

"WANTED MY LIFE TO END."

On the day of my disappearance I drove over in the afternoon to Dorking with my daughter to see a relative. I was at this time in a very despondent state of mind. I just wanted my life to end. As I passed by Newlands Corner that afternoon I saw a quarry, and there came into my mind the thought of driving into it.

However, as my daughter was with me in the car, I dismissed the idea at once.

That night I felt terribly miserable. I felt that I could go on no longer. I left home at 10 o'clock in my car with a few articles of clothing in a suitcase and about £60 in my bag. I had drawn some money from the bank shortly before as I had decided to go that winter to South Africa with my daughter, and I wanted to make preparations.

All that night I drove aimlessly about. In my mind there was the vague idea of ending everything. I drove automatically down roads I knew, but without thinking where I was going. As far as I remember I went to London and drove to Euston Station. Why I went there I do not know. I believe I then drove out to Maidenhead, where I looked at the river. I thought about jumping in, but realised that I could swim too well to drown. I then drove back to London again, and then on to Sunningdale. From there I went on to Newlands Corner.

When I reached a point on the road which I thought was near the quarry I had seen in the afternoon, I turned the car off the road down the hill towards it. I left the wheel and let the car run. The car struck something with a jerk and pulled up suddenly. I was flung against the steering wheel, and my head hit something.

Up to this moment I was Mrs. Christie. I was certainly in an abnormal state of mind, and scarcely knew what I was doing or where I was going. All the same I knew I was Mrs. Christie. After the accident in the car, however, I lost my memory. For 24 hours after the accident my mind was an almost complete blank. Since I recovered my health I have managed to recall a little of what happened in those 24 hours.

I remember arriving at a big railway station and asking what it was, and being surprised to learn it was Waterloo. It is strange that the railway authorities there did not recall me, as I was covered with mud and I had smeared blood on my face from a cut in my hand. I could never make out how this cut had been caused.

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I had now become in my mind Mrs. Tessa Neele, of South Africa.

I can quite understand why I went to Harrogate. The motor-car accident brought on neuritis, and once before in my life I had thought of going to Harrogate to have treatment for this complaint.

While I was at Harrogate I had treatment regularly. The only thing which really puzzled me was the fact that I had scarcely any luggage with me. I could not quite make this out. I had not even a toothbrush in my case, and I wondered why I had come there without one.

I realised, of course, that I had been in some kind of accident. I had a severe bruise on my chest, and my head was also bruised. As Mrs. Neele I was very happy and contented. I had become, as it were, a new woman, and all the worries and anxieties of Mrs. Christie had left me. When I was brought back to my life as Mrs. Christie again many of my worries and anxieties returned, and although I am now quite well and cheerful and have lost my old morbid tendencies completely I have not quite that utter happiness of Mrs. Neele.

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(One of a Series of Announcements of National Importance.
Issued by Spillers—The Nation's Millers.)

BREAD and the Nation's Health!

THE CONTROVERSY SOLVED FACTS FOR THE BRITISH PUBLIC

Useful AND ATTRACTIVE Free Gifts

The Turog Free Gifts are an additional inducement for you to get the 'Turog' habit. Whilst ensuring health—the best gift of all—you can qualify for these very useful gifts consisting of

OVERALLS & Artificial Silk STOCKINGS

All you have to do—

Save 100 Turog Bread Bands,
or 24 3-lb. Turog Flour Bags,
or 12 7-lb. Turog Flour Bags.

Ask your Baker or Grocer for details.
If any difficulty, send a postcard, giving
his name and address to—

THE TUROG BROWN FLOUR CO.,
CARDIFF.

Save the
Turog
Bands!

MUCH has been said in the press regarding the relative values of "Brown" and "White," and out of the welter of conflicting opinions comes a clarion call for a bread which combines the virtues of both.

Turog Bread of Health

Meets the Nation's Need

Here are the facts:—

TUROG—Bread of Health, is a product of the World's finest wheat, abounding in the rich, natural salts and life-giving germ of the wheat berry. Every essential vitamin is present in TUROG—every body, bone and brain-building constituent, every health promoting element.

Because of the special "cooking" process to which the 'germ' is subjected, there is far greater nutriment in TUROG than in ordinary brown bread. The "roughage" necessary for health and well-being is also present, but in so finely milled a form that the disadvantages of wholemeal are eliminated.

The texture of TUROG is delightfully even, its golden crust a revelation. You can taste the sun-kissed wheat in TUROG. Its honest wholesome wheaten flavour never palls.

More delicious than "White," better than ordinary "Brown," TUROG solves the bread controversy once and for all.

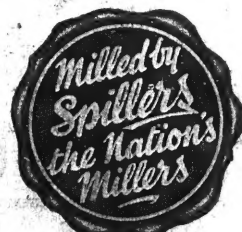
**Try Turog to-day and
note the difference**

For Home Baking—
TUROG Brown Flour—
as good as the Bread.

If any difficulty in obtaining supplies
write giving the name and address
of your Baker or Turog Dealer to:

THE TUROG BROWN FLOUR CO.,
CARDIFF.

Branch of Spillers Limited.



LONDON
LIVERPOOL
MANCHESTER
HULL, CARDIFF
B.R.I.S.T.O.L.
NEWCASTLE-
UPON-TYNE
BIRMINGHAM

Ask your Baker for Turog by name

K NATIONAL NEWSPAPER.

"THE DAILY MAIL" is a national newspaper, and all advertisements, including Classified Advertisements, appear in all editions circulated in Great Britain and Ireland.

The charges for small advertisements, when made by post, are 10 per cent. in excess of the actual charges. All advertisements must be prepaid by the advertiser, and the advertiser must be prepared to pay the full amount of the advertisement in advance.

IN MEMORIAM.

MRS. J. H. JONES, who died on the 15th inst. at her residence, 12, Grosvenor Road, London, N.W.1, aged 78 years.

PERSONAL.

M. S. JONES, 12, Grosvenor Road, London, N.W.1, has been appointed to the position of Secretary to the Board of Directors of the London and North Western Railway Company.

LOST.

I have lost my passport, No. 12345, issued to me by the British Consulate at Paris, on the 10th inst. I am unable to find it, and I hereby declare it null and void.

HOUSE, LAND & OTHER PROPERTY. BATH, Devon. A fine house with 10 acres of land, situated in a beautiful spot. Price £10,000.

THE BARGAIN MARKET. A large stock of goods at reduced prices. See our advertisement on page 10.

BOYD PIANOS. A large stock of pianos at reduced prices. See our advertisement on page 10.

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TOURS.

COOK'S PROGRAMME. SPRING TOURS & EASTER HOLIDAY. Arrangements at home and abroad for the next season.

ALGERIA AND TUNISIA. A tour of the Algerian coast and the interior of Tunisia. Price £50.

BERKELEY, LONDON AND TO BRANCO. A tour of the Berkeley estate and the surrounding country. Price £50.

GEORGE LUNN'S TOURS. A series of tours to various parts of the world. Price £50.

5000 HOLIDAYS ABROAD, HERE. A series of tours to various parts of the world. Price £50.

HOTELS & HOLIDAY APARTMENTS. A series of tours to various parts of the world. Price £50.

SITUATIONS. A series of tours to various parts of the world. Price £50.

PROMOTIONS. A series of tours to various parts of the world. Price £50.

EDUCATIONAL. A series of tours to various parts of the world. Price £50.

QUALITY. A series of tours to various parts of the world. Price £50.

BUSINESS FOR SALE. A series of tours to various parts of the world. Price £50.

MISCELLANEOUS. A series of tours to various parts of the world. Price £50.

STAMPS. A series of tours to various parts of the world. Price £50.

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Enjoy your walking. Get the fullest enjoyment and benefit from walking by having your shoes fitted with Phillips Light Rubber Soles.

"Stick-Soles" - for fixing with Phillips Soles. President Soles - for fixing with light tacks.

PHILLIPS LIGHT RUBBER SOLES. HOW TO STOP ANNOYING NIGHT COUGHS.

ROYAL VISIT TO SALVATION ARMY FESTIVAL. The Duke and Duchess of York and the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester.

THE DUKE & DUCHESS. SING SALVATION ARMY SONGS. The Duke and Duchess of York and the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester.

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Dr. Cassell's 1's TABLETS. The Duke of York said: "The music of the Salvation Army is a symbol of the spirit which animates the great organization."

PAUPERS' VOTE. NO DISQUALIFICATION UNDER NEW BILL. BY THE POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE. (From Lloyd's - Wednesday, February 15.)

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LAWYER RUNS A MILL. AN EXPORTS CREDIT DEFAULT.

The Comptroller and Auditor-General, in his report on the expenditure on the Civil Service for the year ended March 31, 1928, states that the guarantee payments under the Exports Credit Fund outstanding include appreciable sums in respect of certain shipments to Poland in 1921 and 1922, after payment of the bills at maturity had been guaranteed by various Polish banks.

The statement concerns the movements on the day of the murder of a man who during the afternoon was seen examining the doors of several houses in the square. The description of the man seen running away down Dawson-place after the murder takes with the man seen on the staircase outside a flat three doors away from Mr. Webb's house.

While the conference was in progress several photographs of known criminals were brought to the states, and a man and a woman who had seen the man examining the flat doors were asked to inspect them.

More than 60 people have come forward to identify the weapon which bore the marks of the murder.

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NEW CLUE IN FLAT MURDER. A "JAPANESE" WOMAN.

A conference of police chiefs, at which Chief-Commissioner Wenley presided, was held at Paddington Green Police Station last night, when a statement, the most important received by the police who are inquiring into the murder of Mr. Albert Webb, was considered.

Mr. Webb was shot on the stairs leading to his flat at 20, Pembroke-square, Baywater, W., by an armed burglar a week ago to-day. The man escaped after throwing away an automatic pistol in a neighbouring garden.

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RADIATION, LIMITED. THE LIVE FORCE IN THE GAS INDUSTRY. REMARKABLE PROGRESS.

The annual meeting of Radiation, Ltd., was held yesterday at Birmingham. Mr. H. James Yates, the Chairman of the Company, presided, and in his opening address he reviewed the progress of the company since its formation in 1914.

Mr. Yates stated that the company had made remarkable progress since its formation in 1914, and that it was now one of the leading gas companies in the country. He also stated that the company was now in a position to supply gas to all parts of the country.

The combined pre-amalgamation profits of all the companies which had joined Radiation were £22,718,178. The company had raised these profits to such an extent that they had averaged £30,140 per annum - a figure covering the preference dividend.

At the same time they had been charging excessive prices for their gas. They had all along held out a very good example to the gas industry, and they were now in a position to supply gas to all parts of the country.

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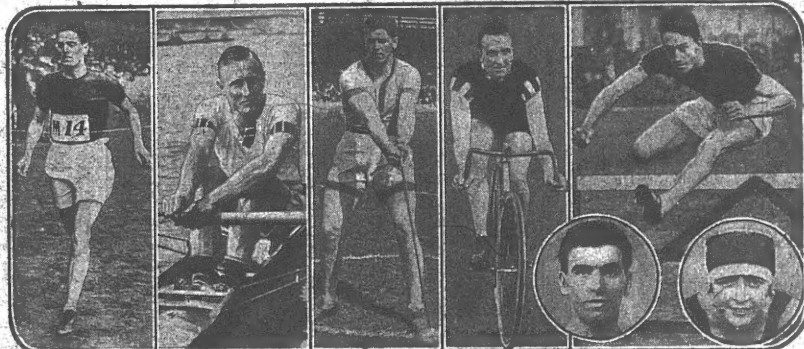
DEATH OF LORD OXFORD AND ASQUITH. OLYMPIC GAMES APPEAL.



A RECENT PHOTOGRAPH of the Earl of Oxford and Asquith, whose death yesterday, at the age of 73, ends a career largely devoted to the service of the nation.



THE FORMER PRIME MINISTER was welcomed back to London with much enthusiasm on his election to Parliament as member for Paisley in 1920, after being without a seat for 14 months following his defeat in Fife. His motor-car is seen surrounded by cheering crowds in Whitehall, guarded by police with drawn truncheons. On right: Lord Oxford at home with three of his grandchildren.



SOME OF THE SIGNATORIES in the letter in another page, from British representatives at the Olympic Games of 1924, in support of the appeal for funds to enable Britain to be worthily represented at Amsterdam this summer. Left to right: D. G. A. Lowe, J. Beresford, M. C. Nokes, C. A. Alden, F. R. Gabby, and, in circles, H. W. Mallin (boxing) and Miss Lucy Morton (swimming).



MRS. R. ASQUITH, mother of Viscount Asquith, Lord Oxford's 11-year-old heir.



CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY STEEPCHASES.—A double fall in the Hunters' Challenge Cup at Cottenham yesterday. Mr. J. W. Page's The Lord (on right) and Mr. T. C. Clare's One of the Mob. Both riders remounted and finished.



MISS NABEL POULTON as Iressa in a Tyrol scene of the "W. and P. Film." The "Constant Nymph," to be shown at the Marble Arch Pavilion on Monday.



ATTENDANTS at the Kensington wedding of Mr. Francis Cook, son of Sir Herbert and Lady Cook, and Miss Molly Mappin, daughter of Mrs. Percival Duke.

ADVERTISERS' ANNOUNCEMENT



Child is Sick, Cross, Feverish if Bilious

Look at Tongue. Then give fruit laxative for stomach and liver. "California Syrup of Figs" can't harm children and they love it.

Mother! Your child's naturally cross and feverish. The tongue is coated. This is a sure sign the little stomach, liver and system need a cleansing at once. When listless, pale, feverish, full of cold, sore throat, doesn't eat, sleep or act naturally has diarrhoea, flatulency, constipation, a painful liver and system cleaning should always be the first treatment given.

Medicine equals "California Syrup of Figs" for children's illia give a few spoonfuls, and in a few hours all the waste and fermenting food which is

hardening the system passes gently out and you have a well and playful child again. All children love this harmless, delicious, "fruit laxative," and it never fails to effect a good "trip" clearing the system. Directions for babies, children of all ages and grownups are printed plainly on the bottle.

Keep it handy in your home. A little given today saves a sick child to-morrow but not the appetite. Of all children's, it's and safe. You must say "California" or you may get an imitative cheap syrup.



ETON COLLEGE BOYS, keenly interested in woodwork as a hobby, operating a lathe.



THE WONDERFUL DAILY MAIL SIGN, 106ft. by 26ft., on the open space adjoining Bush House in the Strand, in which, for the first time in Europe, has been brought into use the newest marvel of combined day and night outdoor advertising colour animation. A detailed description appears in another page.

See Mayfair's Beauty Salons before leaving London.

If you are in town during the month of March—we cordially ask you to call and see the Phyllis Earle Beauty Salons. A visit to us will prove most interesting for the most modern ideas have been developed in the luxurious Salon of Phyllis Earle.

Reception Weeks for Out-of-Town Visitors. FEB. 28 to MAR. 24.

During this period we shall be prepared to show you around the Salons, to make appointments for yourself, to make appointments for your friends and to make appointments for your friends and to make appointments for your friends.

PHYLIS EARLE LTD. 10, DOVER STREET, W. NORTH AUDLEY STREET, LONDON, W.1.

NEW ARMY HUTS at Secondhand Prices.

These are the best of their kind in the country. They are built of strong materials and are very comfortable. They are also very cheap. They are available in all parts of the country. They are available in all parts of the country.

THORNBERS 10, BATHURST STREET, LONDON, W.1.

The New Idea in braces.

Made from all rubber. No metal to rust or chafe. Some old braces are made of metal. They are made of metal. They are made of metal.

"ELASTO" ALL RUBBER BRACES. 26, BATHURST STREET, LONDON, W.1.

World's strongest CARRIER CYCLE.

With SORBO UNBURSTABLE TYRES. 26, BATHURST STREET, LONDON, W.1.

Saves 9d 1.

The "COOKALL" ONE-BURNER GAS COOKER. 26, BATHURST STREET, LONDON, W.1.

SALE 25% OFF ALL PRICES.

C. Albert & Co. 187, Brixton Hill, LONDON, S.W.2.

LATEST LIT.

Daily Meal CHOCOLATE HONEY-MILK ALMONDS. 6s. 1/2 & 2s. 6d. per packet.

Delicious and Wholesome. A Meal in itself.

ANOTHER BARKER DOBSON SUCCESS.